

West Ilsley News

www.westilsley.org

May 2010

EDITORS

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Deadline for the next publication is:

5pm on Tuesday 25th May

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DIARY

MAY

24th Parish Council Meeting and Assembly

JULY

3rd Pre-fete dance

4th Fete

VILLAGE COMMUNICATION

Andrea and Liz

If you don't have email or aren't on the "residents" email distribution list you may wonder what this article is all about, but bear with us.

The recent water problems brought about by the maintenance work at the Stanmore reservoir meant that we used email to:

- Alert everyone to know of individual problems – which then meant that we knew the issue was probably village-wide
- Save several people driving round the village to see if there were water people working and hence causing the problem
- Communicate what action had been taken and the responses received
- Give us ammunition to argue when talking to the water and OFWAT people re communication (or lack of it)

Those who responded to the request for feedback - "are the emails a help or hindrance?" were one hundred percent positive, and thank you for your kind comments, we do sometimes need to know our efforts are appreciated, otherwise we'll stop!

The current system relies on us being at home and alert to new emails and being able to forward them in a timely fashion, so it can't be relied upon as the sole communication in an emergency. For the future we are looking into the possibility of using "group" emails which would be immediate

and enable any member of the group to communicate to everyone else in the group – the concern we have though is that if not every household in the village joins the group it will still involve us in the same sort of checking and sweep-up work which we currently gladly do to ensure those who don't have email don't miss out on the WIN, so we're thinking hard about it.

So that's where we are – any further feedback and suggestions gladly received at:

westilsleynews@msn.com

WELCOME

To Liz and Tony Elliot who have moved into Morland Close.

ILSLEY EVERGREENS

On Thursday May 27th there will be an outing to Exbury Gardens to see the rhodededrons. Including a cream tea. The coach will leave from outside West Ilsley Church at 9.00 am. Members £18, non-members £21. Names to Pat Burnett 281131

WEST ILSLEY PRESENTS

Marnie Moyle

I am proud to say that two of the six jockeys in the seventh (the pony) race at Locking point to point on Bank Holiday Monday, were from West Ilsley. According to the race card they were the two youngest riders of the day.

Our two nine year olds racing on this large, well attended and potentially overwhelming course were JJ Sudgen and Storm Ryan. Starting from the far side of their ¾ mile course they rode like demons, and both crossed the finishing line to rapturous cheers from the large crowds. It was a bit emotional, it was sporting and it was great.

DOWNLAND VOLUNTER GROUP

<http://www.downlandvolgroup.org>

Do you need help with transport for medical appointments or to go shopping?

We can help with transport for the elderly or infirm, or anyone in need,



to Hospitals, Surgeries, Clinics, Dentists, Opticians etc. Just ring our office at Compton Surgery between 10 and 12 Monday – Friday mornings on **01635 578394**

We also make regular shopping trips using the Handybus in the afternoons. The Handybus can also be booked for other group outings in the afternoons and weekends. Ring **01635 202519**

We always welcome new volunteer drivers and office staff. Just ring our office.

TITTLE TATTLE

Polly Muir

Reminiscing over a pint the other evening with Geoff Wond, we revisited My Mum and Dad's old garden (figuratively spiking!). This was brought on by a remark Christian (next door neighbour to the Wonds) had made. He had noticed several newts in his pond and this took Geoff back to my parents' pond in Newbury. All those years ago, we (Geoff and I) had gone to Newbury before my mother left Rupert Road, and retrieved a bucket-load of newts from dad's pond. Fearing that the new family who were to move in were going to fill the pond in - on account of the likelihood of their young offspring falling therein - we tried to remove most of the wildlife in order to protect it. We didn't know of any ponds in the area that the newts could move to and thought their loss of habitat might lead to their ultimate demise. We were proved right, the pond did get filled in, but all these decades and generations on the newts still live. I am unsure to what age a newt might live - I guess I should google it! But how satisfying is it that they are still here in the village? Even more remarkable is the origin of these amphibians - my sister and I used to go 'newting' in the gravel pits, a thousand years ago when they were hidden away in Pinchington Lane. Long before the old rugby club was there: long before Tesco was there: long before, long before...Oh! Never mind! But long ago when there were gravel pits and we had jam jars and we could all go off for hours on end and dabble around in hazardous water. My! What a day's adventure that was. And how pleased am I that can still close my eyes and remember it!

It was grand to see such a good gathering on St George's Day in the pub. Jacqui, Hayley, Chris and Pete hosted a very special evening. Everyone who attended agreed that the food was fab, with a very carefully chosen and cooked supper. We all felt very patriotic with our English menu - it was very special occasion, particularly in view of the big cross-section of villagers that it attracted. We all look forward to meeting again...

FARMING NEWS

Peter Carlisle

The weather has changed this April from being very wet in the beginning of the year to becoming very dry and I think we can see this in the slow development of the crops i.e. wheat, barley and oilseed rape.

Likewise the grass is growing very slowly and the ewes and lambs are rapidly munching their way through it. The cattle have not yet ventured out of the barns because of the lack of fodder. Perhaps they may have to wait a couple more weeks until the beginning of May.

However, we have some very good news with the arrival of Paulina and Roger's beautiful filly called Ilesley, out of Sharda, one night without anyone knowing.

Then one week later another foal arrived. This time Kevin and Sara are the proud owners. Willow is the mum and she has given birth to a strapping Colt called Hardy.

We are pleased to say all four horses are doing well at the "Rowles Farm Stud".

WICC - 2010 SEASON IS UPON US!

Hugh Evans

As can be seen preparations are well underway to prepare the ground and clubhouse for another season. Our Groundsman team of Alan Bloor, Jon Evans (Chopsey) and Doug Brown are the ones to thank for the immense effort they put into making the ground an absolute picture.

On the playing side.....

- We have been running 6 indoor training sessions at Wantage for U15 and below. This has been well attended with over 20 players at each session. The training has been led by Tony Scriven supported by George Storton, Andy Parkes, Hugh Evans, Adrian Dray, Dave Bebbington, Chris Benning and Rob Lawson.
- The first league match is on 24th April - (see Club website for calendar of events - <http://www.westilsleycricket.net>). We run 2 sides on Saturday and one on Sunday. We also play in a Wednesday league - 'bish/bash/bosh' format. For those of you have played in the past and would like to play a relaxed and informal game of cricket – Sundays are ideal. You are very welcome!
- We are always looking for umpires and especially this season, so if you know the game a bit and would like the best seat in the house, we can introduce you to umpiring.
- Youth training at the ground will take place at the ground:

- Every Tuesday – U9, U11, U13 and Girls
STARTS 27th APRIL at 1800
- Every Friday – U15 & U17
- Fridays will once again be an opportunity for some fun games and an opportunity for the 'Minis' to be introduced to the game. A coach will be around to organise games. Parents are very welcome to join in with helping these sessions.
- Playing Membership
 - Senior Member - £50 which includes Family social membership.
 - Junior Member - £35 which includes Family social membership; each additional sibling the fee is £20; for each Junior member of a Senior member the fee is £20 per member.

On the social side.....

- The first Friday will be 30th April – subject to clement weather!
- Many will know that John Verney has been running the bar for many many years. In fact he was one of the founders of the club decades ago. The success of Friday evenings has meant we need help with the bar. Hence if you would like to help out, please let John know on a Friday.
- Social Membership – this entitles you to use the facilities whenever the club is open.
 - Family - £15
 - Individual - £10

On club running issues....

- *Redeveloping the clubhouse* – we have been seeking funding and raising money for a couple of years to rebuild the changing room and storage facilities. We are optimistic that by getting ECB Clubmark status (a quality mark for a well-run club) that we will get some funding from the ECB. Our plan is to commence work this winter. The plans are posted in the club.
- *Pitch use* – based on feedback from the villagers, we have made sure that there are a number of Sundays during the season when cricket is not scheduled. We already have a number of villagers hiring the club / ground for parties etc. The volume of youth cricket has increased over the last 2 seasons. To mitigate the increase, Brightwalton CC have kindly offered use of their recreation ground.
- *Health and Safety*– being granted Clubmark status means that we do and will continue to

manage health and safety to the highest level of effectiveness possible. At the last Parish Council, some concerns were raised about safety to passers by and neighbours of the Rec ground. We are in the process of planning further actions that can reduce risk of damage or hurt to property and, more importantly, people from cricket balls. Making passers by more aware, without being excessively obtrusive(!), is a straightforward step. We need your help in this matter, particularly if you have guests in the village who might not understand the nature of the game and could be made aware with a quiet word!

POLICE UPDATE FOR APRIL

Here is the latest neighbourhood update for Downlands from Neighbourhood Specialist Officer, PC Simon Easton

The latest anti-social behaviour and crime figures for the Downlands can be viewed at <http://maps.police.uk/view/thames-valley> ([opens new window](#)). The facility allows you to view the crime statistics for various types of crime and also allows you to view the statistics for different areas of the force. Crime is up slightly by 10 per cent across the Downlands area when compared to the same three month period last year. Levels of anti-social behaviour have fallen by over 42 per cent which is very positive.

I'd like to start with a good news success story. Following a report from a local resident of a suspicious vehicle on Saturday 27 March, police units searched the area to locate the people involved after sending out a Rural Text Alert with details of the incident. A vigilant Text Alert member then saw the vehicle travelling behind him and immediately notified police. Due to his reactions, the vehicle was located and all occupants were stop checked by police. On this occasions there were no offences but if an offence had occurred, then the Text Alert scheme would have led to two arrests. For more information about the Text Alert scheme contact Deborah Morton on 01635 264718 or via e-mail at deborah.morton@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Our top priority is currently hare coursing as it is still a problem in the Downlands area along the Ridgeway. The areas which appear to be targeted most are the Ilsleys, Catmore, Brightwalton, Farnborough, and Beedon. We are still actively patrolling these areas throughout the day and night with the view of disrupting and preventing any further coursing. However if you have any information or witness such activity please contact us. Please be vigilant and report any sightings of

such activity immediately to increase our chances of catching the offenders before they leave the area. This problem is often also linked to other rural offences such as burglaries to sheds, out-buildings and garages (non-dwellings) and thefts, so our patrols are focused to stop suspicious vehicles in areas where offences have occurred. The issue of anti-social behaviour in Leckhampstead appears to be decreasing as we have not received many reports in recent weeks. We are also currently reviewing the issue of speeding on Beedon Hill. The Beedon Parish Council meeting in March was a well-received opportunity to discuss the issue with local people. Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Dominic Bartlett will also be using the Speed Indication Device (SID) across the area to raise awareness of speeding in the coming weeks. We recently conducted enforcement in Beedon during March and one driver was issued a Fixed Penalty Notice.

This month an 18-year-old man from Curridge has received a caution for possession of cannabis.

WHAT'S ON AT THE HARROW

Wild West Night

Friday 21st May

Special Menu and drinks

Book your tables NOW !!!!



Sunday 30th May

Bank Holiday weekend

Live acoustic music from Empire Safari

7pm onwards. BBQ if weather holds!!

A take away menu

is now available from The Harrow

TENNIS COURT

The tennis court remains open and it has been exciting to see many of you use it, especially the youngsters. However, the committee would like to remind you that it is available for use-tennis only, please. There were youths spotted playing football on the court the other day. Its existence is precarious enough at the moment without disabuse. You are all welcomed warmly, but it is a facility that needs looking after not wrecking. The area is clearly visible to many vigilant people, who keep us well-informed of what goes on.

Just a reminder that subs are (over)due, so if you haven't yet given us a cheque or cash, then please be kind enough so to do, we would be grateful. If you haven't been tempted to play tennis before, then give it a go. Family membership is a bargain @ £40, single membership £25 or alternatively hire the court for

an hour @ £5.00 payable at the pub, or to one of the members of the committee. (Amanda Hagen, Amanda Knight, Liz Dray or me!!)

There has been a lot of rubbish and detritus removed from the court - bottles and crisp packets, etc. If you take food and drinks with you, please take the containers home with you. There are plans for litter bins, but they need to be put up. Until such time as this happens, could all parents/guardians please ensure that their children act responsibly. Similarly, on court, it would be appreciated if parents could check that offspring are behaving properly and in an appropriate fashion. It is not difficult to spot anyone behaving badly and it would be sad to take a hard line and ban anyone for bad behaviour. Please remember to let the tension out of the net before leaving and to make sure that the court is as you found it - tidy and locked. If you are unsure about anyone who follows you, let somebody know.

Happy tennis and thank you.

Polly Muir 281647

MESSAGE FROM CHAMONIX

Hi!

Tom Wilson-north here. I am Gail's son (from Manor Cottage). Mum asked me to write as she thought you might be interested... You see, I live in Chamonix now and a friend and I are going to climb Mont Blanc next week. It's Europe's highest mountain. Then we are going to snowboard down the north face back to Chamonix. It's not exactly a brisk stroll round the Gallops, but we have been training hard so it should be OK.

We have decided to do it for Great Ormond Street and if anyone feels like helping keep us trudging through the snow, they can donate to the hospital on our behalf at

www.justgiving.com/snowboardmontblanc

Very many thanks, Tom Wilson-North

FETE - SUNDAY 4TH JULY

Could you all please save your broken, chipped, un-wanted crockery for the crockery smashing stall at the fete. You can bring it along on the morning of the fete or drop it off at The Harrow.

We need as many hands on deck as possible on the day of the fete, if you would like to help out on the day please let one of the committee members know, thank-you.

Any donations for the raffle would be gratefully received. Please contact Hayley at The Harrow 01635 281260.

If you would like a stall at this year's fete please contact one of the committee.

The committee members are, Alan Bloor Doug Brown, Jo Coles, Katharine Gibbs and Hayley Watling.

We are having a second hand clothing stall at this years fete so could you all please bag up any clothes you no longer wear and bring them to The Harrow.

Get your teams sorted for this years 5 a-side football competition. The categories are, under 7 year olds, under 13 year olds and over 13. Medals for winners.

Get snapping for the photography class. Categories are, under 16's and over 16's. It's a local theme so an animal, a person or an event that happened within the village. Prizes for winners.

This year's fancy dress is an American theme because of it being held on Independence Day. Categories are, 0-5 years and 6-11 years. Free to enter and prizes for winners. We will be holding a talent competition. So if you think you're the next Cheryl Cole or Varsity then come along and wow the judges. £1 to enter. Prizes for winners. Categories are under 7 years, under 13 years and over 13's. So get practising!!

Could you all collect up any unwanted books and bric-a-brac for the stalls. You can bring it to The Harrow or on the morning of the fete. Does anyone have 2 pet rabbits we could borrow for the fete please?? They will be very well looked after of course!! Please contact Hayley at The Harrow 01635 281260.

ALL SAINTS, WEST ILSLEY

Kay and Ian Fewtrell-Smith

May Church Services in All Saints, West Ilsley

2 nd	All Age Communion	9.30 am
9 th	Holy Communion	8.30 am
16 th	All Age Worship	11 am
23 rd	* No service at West Ilsley	
30 th	* No service at West Ilsley	

* Please see the lych gate notice board for details of other services in the benefice.

On Sunday 30th May there will be a United Benefice Communion Service at Beedon at 10am. Thank you to everyone who decorated All Saints Church so beautifully for Easter.

Domestic Electrical Installation

Building regulation Part P Compliant installation/inspection/testing/fault finding and certification

Portable Appliance Testing @ 110/240 VAC
Contact Keith Pentecost
Tel: 01635-281389 (East Ilsley)
Mobile: 07985-797333

CHILDREN'S CHURCH, ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Our next service will be at 4pm in the church on Thursday 20 May. Services are aimed at all ages from babies to older ones and last approximately half an hour followed by drinks. If you would like any further details please do contact any of us on the following numbers:

Denise Brown on 01635 281825

Liz Dray on 01635 281688

Louise Taylor on 01635 280622.



SATURDAY 3 JULY
PRE-FETE DANCE AT THE
CRICKET PITCH
DANCING TO
THE ADVOCATES
<http://www.the-advocates.com/music/>
PROCEEDS IN AID OF TENNIS
COURT REPAIRS.
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

Roger Stowell

Window cleaning

gutter clearance and general odd jobs

Telephone 01869 600628

ILSLEY UNDER 5'S

This Easter, children enjoyed taking part in many activities including printing patterns on an Easter egg, pin the bobtail on the bunny, egg and spoon races and a treasure hunt. Followed by an Easter buffet.

Ilsley Under 7's experienced a visit from the Monkey Music group during the holidays, of which

all children and parents enjoyed singing, dancing and playing instruments. We look forward to inviting Val and Monkey to West Ilsley again soon. Over the past few months we have welcomed lots of new members to the group and we hope that our numbers will continue to grow this term.

Ilsley Under 5's is an established parent and carer run playgroup in partnership with Sure Start offering a great space to play in a friendly and safe environment.

It is a great opportunity to get together with other families and enjoy talk, play, going on picnics, trips, learn together or just have fun.

Every week we provide a craft such as painting, play dough and sticking, and special themed activities throughout the year.

We provide drinks and snacks for the children, and tea and coffee for the adults. The session ends with circle time sing song.

We meet on Wednesday mornings: 10:00 am – 11:30 am in West Ilsley Village Hall. Simply pop along and join us. New members are always welcome. Caroline Rand 01635 281921

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**Teri Muggeridge 01635 281443
07920 116207**

Rachel Chandler BSc (Hons)
McTimoney Chiropractor (GCC reg)
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To Find Out More Or To Book A Free Consultation in Farnborough:
Phone Rachel on 07 87 94 75 557
Email: rachelbchandler@hotmail.com

WHO TO CONTACT	
VILLAGE HALL	
Audrey Tizzard - Treasurer and Bookings	281646
Rates: £7.50/hr Villagers £15/hr Non Villagers	
CHURCHWARDENS	
Alexandra Axtell .281306	Ian Fewtrell-Smith 281625
TENNIS COURT	
Membership: Liz Dray - lizdray@btinternet.com	
Play without joining - to book: Amanda Knight - 281609	
PARISH COUNCIL	
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